

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 2:02 PM
To: Deshommes, Samantha L; Hamilton, Cristina A; Levine, Laurence D; Prelogar, Brandon B; Cummings, Kevin J; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks Sam and fair point

From: Deshommes, Samantha L
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 2:59:57 PM
To: Tynan, Natalie S; Hamilton, Cristina A; Levine, Laurence D; Prelogar, Brandon B; Cummings, Kevin J; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Yes, he did but even on Meet the Press he seemed to waiver on that point and stressed the discretion that CBP has to take additional steps. Looking at the EO and providing RCD questions/comments now.

Samantha Deshommes
Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
USCIS, Office of Policy & Strategy

 (b)(6)

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From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 2:58 PM
To: Hamilton, Cristina A; Levine, Laurence D; Prelogar, Brandon B; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Yes, Priebus announced that on the news today. I don't know that there is an official release.

From: Hamilton, Cristina A
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 2:57:33 PM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Prelogar, Brandon B; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

That's very significant—is that from the news? How was/is that being officially conveyed to/within DHS?

Just so we're all on the same page, it's seven countries, as follows:

Syria, Iraq, Iran, Somalia, Yemen, Sudan, and Libya.

Cristina Hamilton
Chief, National Security and
Benefits Integrity Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, USCIS

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

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From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 2:39 PM
To: Prelogar, Brandon B; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

And now apparently the WH is saying the EO doesn't apply to green card holders from the 6 countries.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:19:08 PM
To: Prelogar, Brandon B; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Attached is the stay order from last night. I've also heard that mandamus actions regarding the EO holds may be coming our way.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

(b)(6)

From: Prelogar, Brandon B

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:11:27 PM

To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'd only add re: rescission of TRIG exemptions that nothing in the EO prevents the continued application of the existing exemptions to TRIG cases while that consideration process takes place. Similar to Kathryn's point about entry vs admission, while I understand the desire to make sure we are not moving forward on cases we shouldn't be processing, we should also be careful not to over-read the EO's directives.

From: Anderson, Kathryn E

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 7:51:47 AM

To: Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'll look more closely at the chart, but upon first glance and after reading the chain below, I wanted to raise a couple (b)(5) things:

(c) To temporarily reduce investigative burdens on relevant agencies during the review period described in subsection (a) of this section, to ensure the proper review and maximum utilization of available resources for the screening of foreign nationals, and to ensure that adequate standards are established to prevent infiltration by foreign terrorists or criminals, pursuant to section 212(f) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(f), I hereby proclaim that the immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens from countries referred to in section 217(a)(12) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12), would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United States, as immigrants and nonimmigrants, of such persons for 90 days from the date of this order (excluding those foreign nationals traveling on diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visas).

2. FOD has raised a question of whether TRIG hold cases should be adjudicated, indicating that the EO's directive in Section 6 to "consider rescinding" TRIG exemptions would seem to mean that new TRIG exemptions are not forthcoming. This should certainly be a question for discussion (and a reconsideration of the agency's hold policy has recently been a topic of discussion, even before this order), but nothing in the EO requires us to take this step, and I would urge that it be thoughtfully considered before a decision to adjudicate all TRIG hold cases is made. OCC has also been very involved in the discussion to adjust the TRIG hold policy, and will certainly want to weigh in on this decision also.

Kathryn

Kathryn Anderson

Acting Chief, International and Humanitarian Affairs Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:30 AM

To: Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

The I-129 and I-539 will definitely be affected.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings

Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

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From: Levine, Laurence D

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:29 AM

To: Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks Sam

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

From: Deshommes, Samantha L
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:18:11 PM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Sure thing...will take a look tomorrow morning.

Samantha Deshommes
Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
USCIS, Office of Policy & Strategy
[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:28:08 PM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: FW: Executive Order

All - very interesting chain (that we were added to a bit late) and a good starting matrix. I think regular meetings will start Monday, so I think we need to make edits and additions to this ASAP so we can have something Monday morning. Sam - can you give up absolute minimums for changing refs and forms, both in the regular course of business as well in an emergency context (if there is such a difference).

Please include the whole chain as we make edits for now and when there's some breathing room Monday we'll figure out how to get this on ECN.

Thanks,
Larry

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:34:16 PM
To: Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

FOD will be using the attached matrix to help identify questions and track implementation timelines. You may find it useful as well as we identify questions, develop guidance, and implementation plans.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Slattery, Shannon E
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:16:07 PM
To: Valverde, Michael; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Kvortek, Lisette E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

The attached document is a matrix breaking down the EO into its component parts and action items. I've added columns for QAs and started compiling those I saw come across this morning and some early ones I saw from Div. 1.

The Policy and general objectives language at the beginning pulls key language from the EO for quick reference when we're drafting statements. The date conversion chart indicates the calendar dates associated with any specific timeframe mentioned in the EO.

I am working to convert this to Excel over the weekend so it's a little more scalable, but wanted to pass it on for initial use.

Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery
Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

(b)(6)

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From: Valverde, Michael
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For section 4, do we need to take any actions prior to the "plan" described in section four being developed and implemented? And who is responsible for developing the plan?

For section 6, should we adjudicate cases in TRIG hold? It doesn't seem like exemptions are forthcoming.

Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

(b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:15 AM
To: Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Valverde, Michael; Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: FW: Executive Order

To start and just on this part of the EO:

1. Are the following forms impacted: N-400s, N-336, I-601A, I-131, I-765, N-565, I-130, ...?
2. Should we deschedule oath ceremonies for individuals from the 7?
3. How do we handle N-400s 120+ days from interview?
4. Should we stop RFEs?
5. Should we stop scheduling interviews?

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Renaud, Tracy L
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:21:12 AM
To: Ruppel, Joanna; Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Everyone should be compiling a list of all of their questions and getting them to Jess so Lori and I have a complete list. If there are URGENT questions that we need answers to before Monday go ahead and flag those for us but I'm not sure the Department is going to get to us immediately, they are likely dealing with issues at the POEs which have a bit more urgency. I did send the question of whether this impact naturalization or not to the Department in an attempt to get an answer this weekend only because we have oath ceremonies scheduled for Monday.

Tracy L. Renaud
Acting Deputy Director
US Citizenship & Immigration Services

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

From: Ruppel, Joanna
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I would also like to flag I-730s. While adjudication does not give status to those outside the US, it does for those inside. Also, since part of the directive is to reviewing to enhance information we collect and screening, we likely will be proposing changes to the I-730 process, to include revisions to the form and the I-730A, which would be completed by the beneficiary. We have mock ups and can move quickly, but need to think first about those in pipeline. Maura has giving directive to staff outside US to cancel pick up document pickups for 730s for next week.

We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:34:17 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can do that but I think it's the same as what I've mentioned. It would be good to have time to consult with others. Can I get it to you on Monday?

And, in the meantime can I get something to the centers this weekend? I can share a draft email tomorrow.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:04:01 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Renaud, Daniel M; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:00 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For clarity, what would be suspended are I-485s, I-539s, I-129s and I-131s. If I'm missing something please let me know.

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:56:01 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can get word out over the weekend to the centers to suspend processing. I just need the list of 7 countries to include in my message. The Directors are already on notice of the possibility. I would exclude from the suspension any petitions for beneficiaries abroad and TPS/DACA.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:31:26 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think the answer to the first two is yes they are impacted for the 7 countries identified. Not sure about petitions for beneficiaries abroad. I'll ask.

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:26 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks for sending this, Lori.

As we've discussed, the most urgent question is whether adjustments and extensions or changes of nonimmigrant status are impacted. Separately, is there any impact on petitions for beneficiaries abroad since we would not be determining admissibility? I would think not, but it would be good to have clarity.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:59:36 PM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think that's o.k. and going forward don't schedule these for interviews.

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:47 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

If we can define "suspend processing" as "suspend prior to approval", then one option would be to continue with the interviews, since it is likely we have some that are scheduled as soon as Monday for affected applicants and then hold the cases post interview. We are trying to scrape our schedulers (C4 and NASS) to see when and where we have interviews scheduled for individuals from affected countries. We should have that sometime Monday.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate
Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

FYI. I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry (b)(5) into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson

Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529



(b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 10:57 AM
To: Rigdon, Jerry L; Cummings, Kevin J; Anderson, Kathryn E; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks Jerry - it seems the operational components are holding everything from the six countries for now and trying to see what can go forward. I'll continue to keep everyone posted.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

 (b)(6)

From: Rigdon, Jerry L
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 11:43:15 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Cummings, Kevin J; Anderson, Kathryn E; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I've also reached out to a couple of SCOPS BCs.

Jerry Rigdon
Deputy Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
Office of Policy and Strategy
USCIS Headquarters

 (b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 11:26 AM
To: Cummings, Kevin J; Anderson, Kathryn E; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Just asked - I'll keep you posted

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security


(b)(6)

From: Cummings, Kevin J
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 11:19:35 AM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Levine, Laurence D; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I have not seen anything, although Don Neufeld alluded to guidance that he could send out sometime today. Larry, could you check with Don?

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

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From: Anderson, Kathryn E
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 10:48 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I saw that FOD sent out guidance to the field yesterday indicating that no final action can be taken on any petition or application for a citizen or national of one of the 7 countries, pending further guidance to come. Processing and interviewing can continue, but the case is to be placed on hold before a final decision is made. NPR seems to have picked up on this and reported it. I'm not sure whether SCOPS has issued any guidance. Has anyone seen?

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 9:35:13 AM
To: Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B;

Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y

Subject: RE: Executive Order

These are exactly the kinds of points we should raise tomorrow. I'm not sure yet what forums will be available to raise them yet.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

From: Phillips, Mark
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 9:25:20 AM
To: Tynan, Natalie S; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Kathryn raises great points. If the EO is restricted to "entries," we should be able to adjudicate natz, adjustment, TPS, and non-immigrant applications where the applicant is physically present in the United States.

From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 8:58:25 AM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks all. I really hope we have some legal guidance. There are a lot of issues.

From: Anderson, Kathryn E
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 7:51:47 AM
To: Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'll look more closely at the chart, but upon first glance and after reading the chain below, I wanted to raise a couple things:

(b)(5)



(c) To temporarily reduce investigative burdens on relevant agencies during the review period described in subsection (a) of this section, to ensure the proper review and maximum utilization of available resources for the screening of foreign nationals, and to ensure that adequate standards are established to prevent infiltration by foreign terrorists or criminals, pursuant to section 212(f) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(f), I hereby proclaim that the immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens from countries referred to in section 217(a)(12) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12), would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United States, as immigrants and nonimmigrants, of such persons for 90 days from the date of this order (excluding those foreign nationals traveling on diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visas).

2. FOD has raised a question of whether TRIG hold cases should be adjudicated, indicating that the EO's directive in Section 6 to "consider rescinding" TRIG exemptions would seem to mean that new TRIG exemptions are not forthcoming. This should certainly be a question for discussion (and a reconsideration of the agency's hold policy has recently been a topic of discussion, even before this order), but nothing in the EO requires us to take this step, and I would urge that it be thoughtfully considered before a decision to adjudicate all TRIG hold cases is made. OCC has also been very involved in the discussion to adjust the TRIG hold policy, and will certainly want to weigh in on this decision also.

Kathryn

Kathryn Anderson

Acting Chief, International and Humanitarian Affairs Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Cummings, Kevin J
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:30 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

The I-129 and I-539 will definitely be affected.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

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Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks Sam

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

From: Deshommes, Samantha L
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:18:11 PM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Sure thing...will take a look tomorrow morning.

Samantha Deshommes
Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
USCIS, Office of Policy & Strategy

[REDACTED]
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From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:28:08 PM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
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All - very interesting chain (that we were added to a bit late) and a good starting matrix. I think regular meetings will start Monday, so I think we need to make edits and additions to this ASAP so we can have something Monday morning. Sam - can you give up absolute minimums for changing refs and forms, both in the regular course of business as well in an emergency context (if there is such a difference).

Please include the whole chain as we make edits for now and when there's some breathing room Monday we'll figure out how to get this on ECN.

Thanks,

Larry

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:34:16 PM
To: Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

FOD will be using the attached matrix to help identify questions and track implementation timelines. You may find it useful as well as we identify questions, develop guidance, and implementation plans.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Slattery, Shannon E
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:16:07 PM
To: Valverde, Michael; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Kvortek, Lisette E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

The attached document is a matrix breaking down the EO into its component parts and action items. I've added columns for QAs and started compiling those I saw come across this morning and some early ones I saw from Div. 1.

The Policy and general objectives language at the beginning pulls key language from the EO for quick reference when we're drafting statements. The date conversion chart indicates the calendar dates associated with any specific timeframe mentioned in the EO.

I am working to convert this to Excel over the weekend so it's a little more scalable, but wanted to pass it on for initial use.

Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery

Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

(b)(6)

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From: Valverde, Michael
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For section 4, do we need to take any actions prior to the "plan" described in section four being developed and implemented? And who is responsible for developing the plan?

For section 6, should we adjudicate cases in TRIG hold? It doesn't seem like exemptions are forthcoming.

Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

(b)(6)

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Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:15 AM
To: Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Valverde, Michael; Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: FW: Executive Order

To start and just on this part of the EO:

1. Are the following forms impacted: N-400s, N-336, I-601A, I-131, I-765, N-565, I-130, ...?
2. Should we deschedule oath ceremonies for individuals from the 7?
3. How do we handle N-400s 120+ days from interview?
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5. Should we stop scheduling interviews?

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Renaud, Tracy L

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:21:12 AM

To: Ruppel, Joanna; Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D

Cc: McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R; Walters, Jessica S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Everyone should be compiling a list of all of their questions and getting them to Jess so Lori and I have a complete list. If there are URGENT questions that we need answers to before Monday go ahead and flag those for us but I'm not sure the Department is going to get to us immediately, they are likely dealing with issues at the POEs which have a bit more urgency. I did send the question of whether this impact naturalization or not to the Department in an attempt to get an answer this weekend only because we have oath ceremonies scheduled for Monday.

Tracy L. Renaud
Acting Deputy Director
US Citizenship & Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Ruppel, Joanna

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:54 AM

To: Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R

Subject: RE: Executive Order

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We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

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Subject: RE: Executive Order

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And, in the meantime can I get something to the centers this weekend? I can share a draft email tomorrow.

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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:00 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For clarity, what would be suspended are I-485s, I-539s, I-129s and I-131s. If I'm missing something please let me know.

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:56:01 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can get word out over the weekend to the centers to suspend processing. I just need the list of 7 countries to include in my message. The Directors are already on notice of the possibility. I would exclude from the suspension any petitions for beneficiaries abroad and TPS/DACA.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:31:26 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think the answer to the first two is yes they are impacted for the 7 countries identified. Not sure about petitions for beneficiaries abroad. I'll ask.

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Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:26 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks for sending this, Lori.

As we've discussed, the most urgent question is whether adjustments and extensions or changes of nonimmigrant status are impacted. Separately, is there any impact on petitions for beneficiaries abroad since we would not be determining admissibility? I would think not, but it would be good to have clarity.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:59:36 PM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think that's o.k. and going forward don't schedule these for interviews.

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:47 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

If we can define "suspend processing" as "suspend prior to approval", then one option would be to continue with the interviews, since it is likely we have some that are scheduled as soon as Monday for affected applicants and then hold the cases post interview. We are trying to scrape our schedulers (C4 and NASS) to see when and where we have interviews scheduled for individuals from affected countries. We should have that sometime Monday.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate
Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

EYL I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person (b)(5)

[REDACTED] We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

Thanks,


Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Prelogar, Brandon B; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order


And now apparently the WH is saying the EO doesn't apply to green card holders from the 6 countries.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security


(b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:19:08 PM
To: Prelogar, Brandon B; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Attached is the stay order from last night. I've also heard that mandamus actions regarding the EO holds may be coming our way.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security


(b)(6)

From: Prelogar, Brandon B
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:11:27 PM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L

(Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'd only add re: rescission of TRIG exemptions that nothing in the EO prevents the continued application of the existing exemptions to TRIG cases while that consideration process takes place. Similar to Kathryn's point about entry vs admission, while I understand the desire to make sure we are not moving forward on cases we shouldn't be processing, we should also be careful not to over-read the EO's directives.

From: Anderson, Kathryn E

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 7:51:47 AM

To: Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'll look more closely at the chart, but upon first glance and after reading the chain below, I wanted to raise a couple things: (b)(5)

(c) To temporarily reduce investigative burdens on relevant agencies during the review period described in subsection (a) of this section, to ensure the proper review and maximum utilization of available resources for the screening of foreign nationals, and to ensure that adequate standards are established to prevent infiltration by foreign terrorists or criminals, pursuant to section 212(f) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(f), I hereby proclaim that the immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens from countries referred to in section 217(a)(12) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12), would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United States, as immigrants and nonimmigrants, of such persons for 90 days from the date of this order (excluding those foreign nationals traveling on diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visas).

2. FOD has raised a question of whether TRIG hold cases should be adjudicated, indicating that the EO's directive in Section 6 to "consider rescinding" TRIG exemptions would seem to mean that new TRIG exemptions are not forthcoming. This should certainly be a question for discussion (and a reconsideration of the agency's hold policy has recently been a topic of discussion, even before this order), but nothing in the EO requires us to take this step, and I would urge that it be thoughtfully considered before a decision to adjudicate all TRIG hold cases is made. OCC has also been very involved in the discussion to adjust the TRIG hold policy, and will certainly want to weigh in on this decision also.

Kathryn

Kathryn Anderson

Acting Chief, International and Humanitarian Affairs Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

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Subject: RE: Executive Order

The I-129 and I-539 will definitely be affected.

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Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
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Thanks Sam

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
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Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
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Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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Lori

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Thanks for sending this, Lori.

As we've discussed, the most urgent question is whether adjustments and extensions or changes of nonimmigrant status are impacted. Separately, is there any impact on petitions for beneficiaries abroad since we would not be determining admissibility? I would think not, but it would be good to have clarity.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:59:36 PM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think that's o.k. and going forward don't schedule these for interviews.

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:47 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

If we can define "suspend processing" as "suspend prior to approval", then one option would be to continue with the interviews, since it is likely we have some that are scheduled as soon as Monday for affected applicants and then hold the cases post interview. We are trying to scrape our schedulers (C4 and NASS) to see when and where we have interviews scheduled for individuals from affected countries. We should have that sometime Monday.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate
Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

FYI. I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this (b)(5) extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 11:05 AM
To: Tynan, Natalie S; Rigdon, Jerry L; Cummings, Kevin J; Anderson, Kathryn E; Phillips, Mark; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order: PROTECTING THE NATION FROM FOREIGN TERRORIST ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES - Service Center Instructions

And here's what I've learned from RAO: Asylum has notified field leadership that they should arrange to stop any decision-issuance to asylum applicants from the listed countries until they are instructed otherwise. They also told leadership to review their upcoming schedules and prepare to cancel any interviews for nationals from the listed countries. They were told not to actually begin cancelling the interviews until they received further guidance from HQ.

IO is working with front office on guidance for international staff and ongoing refugee interviews. We have greenlight for refugee interviews in Vienna to continue tomorrow

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

 (b)(6)

From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 12:01:29 PM
To: Rigdon, Jerry L; Levine, Laurence D; Cummings, Kevin J; Anderson, Kathryn E; Phillips, Mark; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order: PROTECTING THE NATION FROM FOREIGN TERRORIST ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES - Service Center Instructions

Thanks Jerry and Kathryn.

From: Rigdon, Jerry L
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 11:58:25 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Cummings, Kevin J; Anderson, Kathryn E; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: FW: Executive Order: PROTECTING THE NATION FROM FOREIGN TERRORIST ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES - Service Center Instructions

Here is what Don sent.

Jerry Rigdon

Deputy Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
Office of Policy and Strategy
USCIS Headquarters

(b)(6)

From: Neufeld, Donald W

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:34 AM

To: Baran, Kathy A; Campagnolo, Donna P; Crandall, Kristine R; Hazuda, Mark J; McCament, James W; Nolan, Connie L; Richardson, Gregory A; Selby, Cara M (Carrie); Thompson, Kirt; Velarde, Barbara Q; Zuchowski, Laura B; Tamanaha, Emisa T

Cc: Arroyo, Susan K; Bacote, Robert R (Bob); Byrne, Marie L (Louise); Cox, Sophia; Dougherty, Linda M; Douglas, Richard C; Doumani, Stephanie M; Fortes, Michael J; Hartmann, Rosemary M; Hope, Leslie K; Hutchings, Pamela G; Kane, Daniel J; King, Alexander R; La Bella, Magteld H; McCament, James W; McConnell, James E; Moran, Karla; Neufeld, Donald W; Padilla, April Y; Peck, Denis R; Sabga, George M; Thomas, Ronnie D; Watson, Dorcas B (Benita)

Subject: Executive Order: PROTECTING THE NATION FROM FOREIGN TERRORIST ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES - Service Center Instructions

Center Directors and Deputies,

On January 27, 2017, the President signed an Executive Order that, in part, relates to the suspension of processing of certain immigration benefits. Section 3(c) of the Executive Order invokes sections 212(f) and 217(a)(12) of the INA to temporarily suspend the entry immigrants and nonimmigrants who are from Syria, Iraq, Iran, Somalia, Yemen, Sudan, and Libya for 90 days from the date of the Executive Order.

While we await further guidance, we must temporarily suspend adjudication of all applications, petitions or requests involving citizens or nationals of the listed countries. At this point there are no exceptions for any form types, to include I-90s or I-765s. Please physically segregate any files that are impacted by this temporary hold pending further guidance. As you would expect, we will be developing a weekly report format for you to identify the number and types of cases on hold.

We expect to issue more detailed guidance and procedures in the coming days.

Please ensure this guidance is conveyed as soon as possible to all appropriate employees and get back to us with any questions. Also, please reply to let me know each center has received this message.

Thanks,

Don


Gillispie, Anna E

From: Hamilton, Cristina A
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:58 PM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Prelogar, Brandon B; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

That's very significant—is that from the news? How was/is that being officially conveyed to/within DHS?

Just so we're all on the same page, it's seven countries, as follows:

Syria, Iraq, Iran, Somalia, Yemen, Sudan, and Libya.


Cristina Hamilton
Chief, National Security and
Benefits Integrity Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, USCIS


(b)(6)

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 2:39 PM
To: Prelogar, Brandon B; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

And now apparently the WH is saying the EO doesn't apply to green card holders from the 6 countries.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security


(b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:19:08 PM
To: Prelogar, Brandon B; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B;

Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Attached is the stay order from last night. I've also heard that mandamus actions regarding the EO holds may be coming our way.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

From: Prelogar, Brandon B
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 1:11:27 PM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'd only add re: rescission of TRIG exemptions that nothing in the EO prevents the continued application of the existing exemptions to TRIG cases while that consideration process takes place. Similar to Kathryn's point about entry vs admission, while I understand the desire to make sure we are not moving forward on cases we shouldn't be processing, we should also be careful not to over-read the EO's directives.

From: Anderson, Kathryn E
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 7:51:47 AM
To: Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'll look more closely at the chart, but upon first glance and after reading the chain below, I wanted to raise a couple things:

(b)(5)



(c) To temporarily reduce investigative burdens on relevant agencies during the review period described in subsection (a) of this section, to ensure the proper review and maximum utilization of available resources for the screening of foreign nationals, and to ensure that adequate standards are established to prevent infiltration by foreign terrorists or criminals, pursuant to section 212(f) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(f), I hereby proclaim that the immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens from countries referred to in section 217(a)(12) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12), would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United States, as immigrants and nonimmigrants, of such persons for 90 days from the date of this order (excluding those foreign nationals traveling on diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visas).

2. FOD has raised a question of whether TRIG hold cases should be adjudicated, indicating that the EO's directive in Section 6 to "consider rescinding" TRIG exemptions would seem to mean that new TRIG exemptions are not forthcoming. This should certainly be a question for discussion (and a reconsideration of the agency's hold policy has recently been a topic of discussion, even before this order), but nothing in the EO requires us to take this step, and I would urge that it be thoughtfully considered before a decision to adjudicate all TRIG hold cases is made. OCC has also been very involved in the discussion to adjust the TRIG hold policy, and will certainly want to weigh in on this decision also.

Kathryn

Kathryn Anderson

Acting Chief, International and Humanitarian Affairs Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:30 AM

To: Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

The I-129 and I-539 will definitely be affected.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings

Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Levine, Laurence D

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:29 AM

To: Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks Sam

Larry Levine

Acting Chief

Office of Policy & Strategy

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Deshommes, Samantha L

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:18:11 PM

To: Levine, Laurence D; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Sure thing...will take a look tomorrow morning.

Samantha Deshommes

Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division

USCIS, Office of Policy & Strategy

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:28:08 PM

To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: FW: Executive Order

All - very interesting chain (that we were added to a bit late) and a good starting matrix. I think regular meetings will start Monday, so I think we need to make edits and additions to this ASAP so we can have something Monday morning. Sam - can you give up absolute minimums for changing refs and forms, both in the regular course of business as well in an emergency context (if there is such a difference).

Please include the whole chain as we make edits for now and when there's some breathing room Monday we'll figure out how to get this on ECN.

Thanks,

Larry

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:34:16 PM
To: Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

FOD will be using the attached matrix to help identify questions and track implementation timelines. You may find is useful as well as we identify questions, develop guidance, and implementation plans.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Slattery, Shannon E
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:16:07 PM
To: Valverde, Michael; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Kvortek, Lisette E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

The attached document is a matrix breaking down the EO into its component parts and action items. I've added columns for QAs and started compiling those I saw come across this morning and some early ones I saw from Div. 1.

The Policy and general objectives language at the beginning pulls key language from the EO for quick reference when we're drafting statements. The date conversion chart indicates the calendar dates associated with any specific timeframe mentioned in the EO.

I am working to convert this to Excel over the weekend so it's a little more scalable, but wanted to pass it on for initial use.

Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery

Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

This email and any attachments is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use, copying, or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy the original transmission and all copies.

From: Valverde, Michael
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For section 4, do we need to take any actions prior to the "plan" described in section four being developed and implemented? And who is responsible for developing the plan?

For section 6, should we adjudicate cases in TRIG hold? It doesn't seem like exemptions are forthcoming.

Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director
[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:15 AM
To: Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Valverde, Michael; Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: FW: Executive Order

To start and just on this part of the EO:

1. Are the following forms impacted: N-400s, N-336, I-601A, I-131, I-765, N-565, I-130, ...?
2. Should we deschedule oath ceremonies for individuals from the 7?
3. How do we handle N-400s 120+ days from interview?
4. Should we stop RFEs?
5. Should we stop scheduling interviews?

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Renaud, Tracy L
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:21:12 AM
To: Ruppel, Joanna; Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J;

Emrich, Matthew D

Cc: McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R; Walters, Jessica S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Everyone should be compiling a list of all of their questions and getting them to Jess so Lori and I have a complete list. If there are URGENT questions that we need answers to before Monday go ahead and flag those for us but I'm not sure the Department is going to get to us immediately, they are likely dealing with issues at the POEs which have a bit more urgency. I did send the question of whether this impact naturalization or not to the Department in an attempt to get an answer this weekend only because we have oath ceremonies scheduled for Monday.

Tracy L. Renaud
Acting Deputy Director
US Citizenship & Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security



(b)(6)

From: Ruppel, Joanna

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:54 AM

To: Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R

Subject: RE: Executive Order

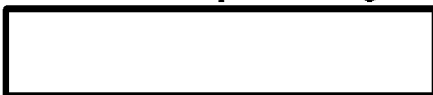
I would also like to flag I-730s. While adjudication does not give status to those outside the US, it does for those inside. Also, since part of the directive is to reviewing to enhance information we collect and screening, we likely will be proposing changes to the I-730 process, to include revisions to the form and the I-730A, which would be completed by the beneficiary. We have mock ups and can move quickly, but need to think first about those in pipeline. Maura has giving directive to staff outside US to cancel pick up document pickups for 730s for next week.

We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



(b)(6)

From: Neufeld, Donald W

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:34:17 PM

To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can do that but I think it's the same as what I've mentioned. It would be good to have time to consult with others. Can I get it to you on Monday?

And, in the meantime can I get something to the centers this weekend? I can share a draft email tomorrow.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:04:01 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Renaud, Daniel M; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:00 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For clarity, what would be suspended are I-485s, I-539s, I-129s and I-131s. If I'm missing something please let me know.

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:56:01 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can get word out over the weekend to the centers to suspend processing. I just need the list of 7 countries to include in my message. The Directors are already on notice of the possibility. I would exclude from the suspension any petitions for beneficiaries abroad and TPS/DACA.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:31:26 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think the answer to the first two is yes they are impacted for the 7 countries identified. Not sure about petitions for beneficiaries abroad. I'll ask.

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:26 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks for sending this, Lori.

As we've discussed, the most urgent question is whether adjustments and extensions or changes of nonimmigrant status are impacted. Separately, is there any impact on petitions for beneficiaries abroad since we would not be determining admissibility? I would think not, but it would be good to have clarity.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:59:36 PM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think that's o.k. and going forward don't schedule these for interviews.

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:47 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

If we can define "suspend processing" as "suspend prior to approval", then one option would be to continue with the interviews, since it is likely we have some that are scheduled as soon as Monday for affected applicants and then hold the cases post interview. We are trying to scrape our schedulers (C4 and NASS) to see when and where we have interviews scheduled for individuals from affected countries. We should have that sometime Monday.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate
Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

FYI. I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person. [REDACTED] (b)(5)

[REDACTED] We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Rigdon, Jerry L
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Cummings, Kevin J; Anderson, Kathryn E; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: FW: Executive Order: PROTECTING THE NATION FROM FOREIGN TERRORIST ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES - Service Center Instructions

Here is what Don sent.

Jerry Rigdon

Deputy Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
Office of Policy and Strategy
USCIS Headquarters

(b)(6)

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:34 AM
To: Baran, Kathy A; Campagnolo, Donna P; Crandall, Kristine R; Hazuda, Mark J; McCament, James W; Nolan, Connie L; Richardson, Gregory A; Selby, Cara M (Carrie); Thompson, Kirt; Velarde, Barbara Q; Zuchowski, Laura B; Tamanaha, Emisa T
Cc: Arroyo, Susan K; Bacote, Robert R (Bob); Byrne, Marie L (Louise); Cox, Sophia; Dougherty, Linda M; Douglas, Richard C; Doumani, Stephanie M; Fortes, Michael J; Hartmann, Rosemary M; Hope, Leslie K; Hutchings, Pamela G; Kane, Daniel J; King, Alexander R; La Bella, Magteld H; McCament, James W; McConnell, James E; Moran, Karla; Neufeld, Donald W; Padilla, April Y; Peck, Denis R; Sabga, George M; Thomas, Ronnie D; Watson, Dorcas B (Benita)
Subject: Executive Order: PROTECTING THE NATION FROM FOREIGN TERRORIST ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES - Service Center Instructions

Center Directors and Deputies,

On January 27, 2017, the President signed an Executive Order that, in part, relates to the suspension of processing of certain immigration benefits. Section 3(c) of the Executive Order invokes sections 212(f) and 217(a)(12) of the INA to temporarily suspend the entry immigrants and nonimmigrants who are from Syria, Iraq, Iran, Somalia, Yemen, Sudan, and Libya for 90 days from the date of the Executive Order.

While we await further guidance, we must temporarily suspend adjudication of all applications, petitions or requests involving citizens or nationals of the listed countries. At this point there are no exceptions for any form types, to include I-90s or I-765s. Please physically segregate any files that are impacted by this temporary hold pending further guidance. As you would expect, we will be developing a weekly report format for you to identify the number and types of cases on hold.

We expect to issue more detailed guidance and procedures in the coming days.

Please ensure this guidance is conveyed as soon as possible to all appropriate employees and get back to us with any questions. Also, please reply to let me know each center has received this message.

Thanks,

Don

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Ruppel, Joanna
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M; Neufeld, Donald W; Walters, Jessica S; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Walters, Jessica S; Nicholson, Maura J
Subject: RE: Executive Order

IO is still seeking clarification on some things (was hoping to get today), but likely will do same.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Acting Associate Director
USCIS Refugee, Asylum and International Operations

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

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Yes. We've got just about everything on hold (meaning no final decisions) from the countries until we give further guidance.

Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

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Has anything gone out to our field folks at this point about pendings?

Larry Levine

Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

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Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks very much.

Jessica S. Walters
Senior Advisor
Office of the USCIS Deputy Director
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

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Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:16 AM
To: Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

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Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Slattery, Shannon E
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To: Valverde, Michael; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Kvortek, Lisette E

Subject: RE: Executive Order

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The Policy and general objectives language at the beginning pulls key language from the EO for quick reference when we're drafting statements. The date conversion chart indicates the calendar dates associated with any specific timeframe mentioned in the EO.

I am working to convert this to Excel over the weekend so it's a little more scalable, but wanted to pass it on for initial use.

Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery
Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

(b)(6)

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DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

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Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Department of Homeland Security

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Subject: RE: Executive Order

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Acting Deputy Director

US Citizenship & Immigration Services

Department of Homeland Security

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We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel

Chief, International Operations Division

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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And, in the meantime can I get something to the centers this weekend? I can share a draft email tomorrow.

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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

For clarity, what would be suspended are I-485s, I-539s, I-129s and I-131s. If I'm missing something please let me know.

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To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can get word out over the weekend to the centers to suspend processing. I just need the list of 7 countries to include in my message. The Directors are already on notice of the possibility. I would exclude from the suspension any petitions for beneficiaries abroad and TPS/DACA.

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Subject: RE: Executive Order

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Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate
Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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To: Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

FYI. I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but [REDACTED]

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person [REDACTED] (b)(5)

We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

(b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

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Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
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US Citizenship & Immigration Services

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Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person. [REDACTED]

We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

(b)(5)

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED] (b)(5)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Valverde, Michael
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M; Neufeld, Donald W; Walters, Jessica S; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Yes. We've got just about everything on hold (meaning no final decisions) from the countries until we give further guidance.

Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 11:24:57 AM
To: Groom, Molly M; Neufeld, Donald W; Walters, Jessica S; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Has anything gone out to our field folks at this point about pendings?

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Groom, Molly M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:21:08 PM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Neufeld, Donald W; Walters, Jessica S; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Trying to get best information.

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:20:37 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Walters, Jessica S; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Groom, Molly M; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Reuters is reporting that the stay covers holders of valid IV and NIVs and arriving refugees

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:08:36 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Walters, Jessica S; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Groom, Molly M; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I've only seen this on Twitter, but it looks like a judge in EDNY has granted a nationwide stay of the refugee EO. I haven't been able to nail down a copy of the actual order, so I have no actual details. Anyone else hear anything?

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:54:08 PM
To: Walters, Jessica S; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Yes, thanks. I've shared with my folks too.

From: Walters, Jessica S
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:41:04 PM
To: Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks very much.

Jessica S. Walters
Senior Advisor
Office of the USCIS Deputy Director
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:16 AM
To: Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

FOD will be using the attached matrix to help identify questions and track implementation timelines. You may find it useful as well as we identify questions, develop guidance, and implementation plans.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Slattery, Shannon E
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:16:07 PM
To: Valverde, Michael; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Kvortek, Lisette E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

The attached document is a matrix breaking down the EO into its component parts and action items. I've added columns for QAs and started compiling those I saw come across this morning and some early ones I saw from Div. 1.

The Policy and general objectives language at the beginning pulls key language from the EO for quick reference when we're drafting statements. The date conversion chart indicates the calendar dates associated with any specific timeframe mentioned in the EO.

I am working to convert this to Excel over the weekend so it's a little more scalable, but wanted to pass it on for initial use.

Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery
Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

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protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use, copying, or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy the original transmission and all copies.

From: Valverde, Michael
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For section 4, do we need to take any actions prior to the "plan" described in section four being developed and implemented? And who is responsible for developing the plan?

For section 6, should we adjudicate cases in TRIG hold? It doesn't seem like exemptions are forthcoming.

Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

(b)(6)

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Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:15 AM
To: Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Valverde, Michael; Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: FW: Executive Order
To start and just on this part of the EO:

1. Are the following forms impacted: N-400s, N-336, I-601A, I-131, I-765, N-565, I-130, ...?
2. Should we deschedule oath ceremonies for individuals from the 7?
3. How do we handle N-400s 120+ days from interview?
4. Should we stop RFEs?
5. Should we stop scheduling interviews?

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Renaud, Tracy L
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:21:12 AM
To: Ruppel, Joanna; Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Everyone should be compiling a list of all of their questions and getting them to Jess so Lori and I have a complete list. If there are URGENT questions that we need answers to before Monday go ahead and flag those for us but I'm not sure the Department is going to get to us immediately, they are likely dealing with issues at the POEs which have a bit more urgency. I did send the question of whether this impact naturalization or not to the Department in an attempt to get an answer this weekend only because we have oath ceremonies scheduled for Monday.

Tracy L. Renaud
Acting Deputy Director
US Citizenship & Immigration Services

[REDACTED]
From: Ruppel, Joanna (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I would also like to flag I-730s. While adjudication does not give status to those outside the US, it does for those inside. Also, since part of the directive is to reviewing to enhance information we collect and screening, we likely will be proposing changes to the I-730 process, to include revisions to the form and the I-730A, which would be completed by the beneficiary. We have mock ups and can move quickly, but need to think first about those in pipeline. Maura has giving directive to staff outside US to cancel pick up document pickups for 730s for next week.

We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:34:17 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order
I can do that but I think it's the same as what I've mentioned. It would be good to have time to consult with others. Can I get it to you on Monday?

And, in the meantime can I get something to the centers this weekend? I can share a draft email tomorrow.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:04:01 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Renaud, Daniel M; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order
O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:00 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For clarity, what would be suspended are I-485s, I-539s, I-129s and I-131s. If I'm missing something please let me know.

From: Neufeld, Donald W

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:56:01 PM

To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can get word out over the weekend to the centers to suspend processing. I just need the list of 7 countries to include in my message. The Directors are already on notice of the possibility. I would exclude from the suspension any petitions for beneficiaries abroad and TPS/DACA.

From: Scialabba, Lori L

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:31:26 PM

To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think the answer to the first two is yes they are impacted for the 7 countries identified. Not sure about petitions for beneficiaries abroad. I'll ask.

From: Neufeld, Donald W

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:26 PM

To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks for sending this, Lori.

As we've discussed, the most urgent question is whether adjustments and extensions or changes of nonimmigrant status are impacted. Separately, is there any impact on petitions for beneficiaries abroad since we would not be determining admissibility? I would think not, but it would be good to have clarity.

From: Scialabba, Lori L

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:59:36 PM

To: Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think that's o.k. and going forward don't schedule these for interviews.

From: Renaud, Daniel M

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:47 PM

To: Scialabba, Lori L; Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

If we can define "suspend processing" as "suspend prior to approval", then one option would be to continue with the interviews, since it is likely we have some that are scheduled as soon as Monday for affected applicants and then hold the cases post interview. We are trying to scrape our schedulers (C4 and NASS) to see when and where we have interviews scheduled for individuals from affected countries. We should have that sometime Monday.

Daniel M. Renaud

Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate

Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

From: Scialabba, Lori L

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:43 PM

To: Higgins, Jennifer

Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M

Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

FYI. I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but [REDACTED]

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person [REDACTED]

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(b)(5)

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Anderson, Kathryn E
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 9:48 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I saw that FOD sent out guidance to the field yesterday indicating that no final action can be taken on any petition or application for a citizen or national of one of the 7 countries, pending further guidance to come. Processing and interviewing can continue, but the case is to be placed on hold before a final decision is made. NPR seems to have picked up on this and reported it. I'm not sure whether SCOPS has issued any guidance. Has anyone seen?

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 9:35:13 AM
To: Phillips, Mark; Tynan, Natalie S; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

These are exactly the kinds of points we should raise tomorrow. I'm not sure yet what forums will be available to raise them yet.

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security


(b)(6)

From: Phillips, Mark
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 9:25:20 AM
To: Tynan, Natalie S; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Kathryn raises great points. If the EO is restricted to "entries," we should be able to adjudicate natz, adjustment, TPS, and non-immigrant applications where the applicant is physically present in the United States.

From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 8:58:25 AM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks all. I really hope we have some legal guidance. There are a lot of issues.

From: Anderson, Kathryn E
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 7:51:47 AM
To: Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'll look more closely at the chart, but upon first glance and after reading the chain below, I wanted to raise a couple things:

(b)(5)

(c) To temporarily reduce investigative burdens on relevant agencies during the review period described in subsection (a) of this section, to ensure the proper review and maximum utilization of available resources for the screening of foreign nationals, and to ensure that adequate standards are established to prevent infiltration by foreign terrorists or criminals, pursuant to section 212(f) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(f), I hereby proclaim that the immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens from countries referred to in section 217(a)(12) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12), would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United States, as immigrants and nonimmigrants, of such persons for 90 days from the date of this order (excluding those foreign nationals traveling on diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visas).

2. FOD has raised a question of whether TRIG hold cases should be adjudicated, indicating that the EO's directive in Section 6 to "consider rescinding" TRIG exemptions would seem to mean that new TRIG exemptions are not forthcoming. This should certainly be a question for discussion (and a reconsideration of the agency's hold policy has recently been a topic of discussion, even before this order), but nothing in the EO requires us to take this step, and I would urge that it be thoughtfully considered before a decision to adjudicate all TRIG hold cases is made. OCC has also been very involved in the discussion to adjust the TRIG hold policy, and will certainly want to weigh in on this decision also.

Kathryn

Kathryn Anderson

Acting Chief, International and Humanitarian Affairs Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:30 AM

To: Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

The I-129 and I-539 will definitely be affected.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings
Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Levine, Laurence D

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:29 AM

To: Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks Sam

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Deshommes, Samantha L

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:18:11 PM

To: Levine, Laurence D; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

Sure thing...will take a look tomorrow morning.

Samantha Deshommes

Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division

USCIS, Office of Policy & Strategy

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:28:08 PM

To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: FW: Executive Order

All - very interesting chain (that we were added to a bit late) and a good starting matrix. I think regular meetings will start Monday, so I think we need to make edits and additions to this ASAP so we can have something Monday morning. Sam - can you give up absolute minimums for changing refs and forms, both in the regular course of business as well in an emergency context (if there is such a difference).

Please include the whole chain as we make edits for now and when there's some breathing room Monday we'll figure out how to get this on ECN.

Thanks,

Larry

Larry Levine

Acting Chief

Office of Policy & Strategy

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:34:16 PM

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Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M

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Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
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Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery
Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

 (b)(6)

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DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
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Acting Deputy Director
US Citizenship & Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

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Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

(b)(6)

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To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Renaud, Daniel M; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

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Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate
Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
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(b)(5)

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[REDACTED]

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Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
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Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Ruppel, Joanna
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To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M; Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Walters, Jessica S; Lafferty, John L; Strack, Barbara L; Stone, Mary M; Nicholson, Maura J
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Asylum has notified field leadership that they should arrange to stop any decision-issuance to asylum applicants from the listed countries until they are instructed otherwise. They also told leadership to review their upcoming schedules and prepare to cancel any interviews for nationals from the listed countries. They were told not to actually begin cancelling the interviews until they received further guidance from HQ.

IO is working with front office on guidance for international staff and ongoing refugee interviews. We have greenlight for refugee interviews in Vienna to continue tomorrow.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Acting Associate Director
USCIS Refugee, Asylum and International Operations

 (b)(6)

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Subject: RE: Executive Order

Has anything gone out to our field folks at this point about pendings?

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security



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Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

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Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks very much.

Jessica S. Walters
Senior Advisor
Office of the USCIS Deputy Director
and Immigration Services

 (b)(6)

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Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:16 AM
To: Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

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Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Slattery, Shannon E
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To: Valverde, Michael; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Kvortek, Lisette E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

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The Policy and general objectives language at the beginning pulls key language from the EO for quick reference when we're drafting statements. The date conversion chart indicates the calendar dates associated with any specific timeframe mentioned in the EO.

I am working to convert this to Excel over the weekend so it's a little more scalable, but wanted to pass it on for initial use.

Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery
Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[Redacted]
(b)(6)

This email and any attachments is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use, copying, or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy the original transmission and all copies.

From: Valverde, Michael
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

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Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

[Redacted]
(b)(6)

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To: Kvortek, Lisette E

Cc: Valverde, Michael; Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: FW: Executive Order
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Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
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Subject: RE: Executive Order
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I would also like to flag I-730s. While adjudication does not give status to those outside the US, it does for those inside. Also, since part of the directive is to reviewing to enhance information we collect and screening, we likely will be proposing changes to the I-730 process, to include revisions to the form and the I-730A, which would be completed by the beneficiary. We have mock ups and can move quickly, but need to think first about those in pipeline. Maura has giving directive to staff outside US to cancel pick up document pickups for 730s for next week.

We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W

Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can do that but I think it's the same as what I've mentioned. It would be good to have time to consult with others. Can I get it to you on Monday?

And, in the meantime can I get something to the centers this weekend? I can share a draft email tomorrow.

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Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

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I would also like to flag I-730s. While adjudication does not give status to those outside the US, it does for those inside. Also, since part of the directive is to reviewing to enhance information we collect and screening, we likely will be proposing changes to the I-730 process, to include revisions to the form and the I-730A, which would be completed by the beneficiary. We have mock ups and can move quickly, but need to think first about those in pipeline. Maura has giving directive to staff outside US to cancel pick up document pickups for 730s for next week.

We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
[REDACTED]

(b)(6)

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:34:17 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order
I can do that but I think it's the same as what I've mentioned. It would be good to have time to consult with others. Can I get it to you on Monday?

And, in the meantime can I get something to the centers this weekend? I can share a draft email tomorrow.

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To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Renaud, Daniel M; Ruppel, Joanna; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order
O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:00 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For clarity, what would be suspended are I-485s, I-539s, I-129s and I-131s. If I'm missing something please let me know.

From: Neufeld, Donald W
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:56:01 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I can get word out over the weekend to the centers to suspend processing. I just need the list of 7 countries to include in my message. The Directors are already on notice of the possibility. I would exclude from the suspension any petitions for beneficiaries abroad and TPS/DACA.

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:31:26 PM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I think the answer to the first two is yes they are impacted for the 7 countries identified. Not sure about petitions for beneficiaries abroad. I'll ask.

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To: Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks for sending this, Lori.

As we've discussed, the most urgent question is whether adjustments and extensions or changes of nonimmigrant status are impacted. Separately, is there any impact on petitions for beneficiaries abroad since we would not be determining admissibility? I would think not, but it would be good to have clarity.

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Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order
I think that's o.k. and going forward don't schedule these for interviews.

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Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 5:47 PM
To: Scialabba, Lori L; Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W
Subject: RE: Executive Order

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Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate

Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

From: Scialabba, Lori L
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

EVL I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but [REDACTED]

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person. [REDACTED]

We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

(b)(5)

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

(b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Phillips, Mark
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 8:25 AM
To: Tynan, Natalie S; Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Kathryn raises great points. If the EO is restricted to "entries," we should be able to adjudicate natz, adjustment, TPS, and non-immigrant applications where the applicant is physically present in the United States.

From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 8:58:25 AM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks all. I really hope we have some legal guidance. There are a lot of issues.

From: Anderson, Kathryn E
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 7:51:47 AM
To: Cummings, Kevin J; Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

I'll look more closely at the chart, but upon first glance and after reading the chain below, I wanted to raise a couple (b)(5) things:



(c) To temporarily reduce investigative burdens on relevant agencies during the review period described in subsection (a) of this section, to ensure the proper review and maximum utilization of available resources for the screening of foreign nationals, and to ensure that adequate standards are established to prevent infiltration by foreign terrorists or criminals, pursuant to section 212(f) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182(f), I hereby proclaim that the immigrant and

nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens from countries referred to in section 217(a)(12) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12), would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United States, as immigrants and nonimmigrants, of such persons for 90 days from the date of this order (excluding those foreign nationals traveling on diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visas).

2. FOD has raised a question of whether TRIG hold cases should be adjudicated, indicating that the EO's directive in Section 6 to "consider rescinding" TRIG exemptions would seem to mean that new TRIG exemptions are not forthcoming. This should certainly be a question for discussion (and a reconsideration of the agency's hold policy has recently been a topic of discussion, even before this order), but nothing in the EO requires us to take this step, and I would urge that it be thoughtfully considered before a decision to adjudicate all TRIG hold cases is made. OCC has also been very involved in the discussion to adjust the TRIG hold policy, and will certainly want to weigh in on this decision also.

Kathryn

Kathryn Anderson

Acting Chief, International and Humanitarian Affairs Division
Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Cummings, Kevin J

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:30 AM

To: Levine, Laurence D; Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S

Subject: RE: Executive Order

The I-129 and I-539 will definitely be affected.

--Kevin

Kevin J. Cummings

Chief, Business & Foreign Workers Division
USCIS Office of Policy and Strategy
Department of Homeland Security

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies. Thank you.

From: Levine, Laurence D

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2017 6:29 AM

To: Deshommes, Samantha L; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B;

Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Thanks Sam

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

From: Deshommes, Samantha L
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:18:11 PM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Sure thing...will take a look tomorrow morning.

Samantha Deshommes
Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
USCIS, Office of Policy & Strategy

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

From: Levine, Laurence D
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:28:08 PM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y; Tynan, Natalie S
Subject: FW: Executive Order

All - very interesting chain (that we were added to a bit late) and a good starting matrix. I think regular meetings will start Monday, so I think we need to make edits and additions to this ASAP so we can have something Monday morning. Sam - can you give up absolute minimums for changing refs and forms, both in the regular course of business as well in an emergency context (if there is such a difference).

Please include the whole chain as we make edits for now and when there's some breathing room Monday we'll figure out how to get this on ECN.

Thanks,
Larry

Larry Levine
Acting Chief
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:34:16 PM
To: Walters, Jessica S
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Ruppel, Joanna; Young, Todd P; Slattery, Shannon E; Valverde, Michael; Levine, Laurence D; Groom, Molly M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

FOD will be using the attached matrix to help identify questions and track implementation timelines. You may find is useful as well as we identify questions, develop guidance, and implementation plans.

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Slattery, Shannon E
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 12:16:07 PM
To: Valverde, Michael; Renaud, Daniel M
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Kvortek, Lisette E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

The attached document is a matrix breaking down the EO into its component parts and action items. I've added columns for QAs and started compiling those I saw come across this morning and some early ones I saw from Div. 1.

The Policy and general objectives language at the beginning pulls key language from the EO for quick reference when we're drafting statements. The date conversion chart indicates the calendar dates associated with any specific timeframe mentioned in the EO.

I am working to convert this to Excel over the weekend so it's a little more scalable, but wanted to pass it on for initial use.

Please let me know if you have any questions or see anything that needs editing.

Thanks,

Shannon E. Slattery
Field Operations Directorate | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Valverde, Michael
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Renaud, Daniel M; Kvortek, Lissette E
Cc: Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: RE: Executive Order

For section 4, do we need to take any actions prior to the "plan" described in section four being developed and implemented? And who is responsible for developing the plan?

For section 6, should we adjudicate cases in TRIG hold? It doesn't seem like exemptions are forthcoming.

Michael Valverde
DHS USCIS
Field Operations Directorate, Deputy Associate Director

 (b)(6)

From: Renaud, Daniel M
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:34:15 AM
To: Kvortek, Lissette E
Cc: Valverde, Michael; Farnam, Julie E; Slattery, Shannon E
Subject: FW: Executive Order

To start and just on this part of the EO:

1. Are the following forms impacted: N-400s, N-336, I-601A, I-131, I-765, N-565, I-130, ...?
2. Should we deschedule oath ceremonies for individuals from the 7?
3. How do we handle N-400s 120+ days from interview?
4. Should we stop RFEs?
5. Should we stop scheduling interviews?

Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director | Field Operations Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

From: Renaud, Tracy L
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 11:21:12 AM
To: Ruppel, Joanna; Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R; Walters, Jessica S
Subject: RE: Executive Order

Everyone should be compiling a list of all of their questions and getting them to Jess so Lori and I have a complete list. If there are URGENT questions that we need answers to before Monday go ahead and flag those for us but I'm not sure the Department is going to get to us immediately, they are likely dealing with issues at the POEs which have a bit more urgency. I did send the question of whether this impact naturalization or not to the Department in an attempt to get an answer this weekend only because we have oath ceremonies scheduled for Monday.

Tracy L. Renaud
Acting Deputy Director
US Citizenship & Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Ruppel, Joanna
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Neufeld, Donald W; Scialabba, Lori L; Renaud, Daniel M; Higgins, Jennifer; Strack, Barbara L; Davidson, Andrew J; Emrich, Matthew D
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; McCament, James W; Nicholson, Maura J; Kliska, Jennifer R
Subject: RE: Executive Order

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We are working on further guidance and of course will coordinate with SCOP.

State has also issued guidance. Will forward.

Joanna

Joanna Ruppel
Chief, International Operations Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

(b)(6)

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O.K. Take Jennifer off the email chains. Don, I want one document with all your issues. Same goes for Dan, Joanna/Barbara and Matt/Andrew. We'll start regular meetings next week.

Lori

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Daniel M. Renaud
Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate
Department of Homeland Security | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:43 PM
To: Higgins, Jennifer
Cc: Renaud, Tracy L; Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M
Subject: FW: Executive Order

(b)(5)

FYI. I think Andrew might be right in terms of what is meant but [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Davidson, Andrew J
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Renaud, Tracy L
Cc: Neufeld, Donald W; Renaud, Daniel M; Scialabba, Lori L
Subject: Executive Order

Tracy,

It is my understanding that POTUS will sign the "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" order today at 4:30pm. In complying with the EA I believe we need immediate clarification in Section 3 (c) relative to the 30 day suspension of processing immigrants and non-immigrants from the designated countries of interest and if this extends to processing of permanent resident applications. Though the EA states "immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States", once we grant an adjustment we "admit" that person [REDACTED]

(b)(5)

[REDACTED] We just need to clarify if by extension this applies to our product lines. If this is the case then Don and Dan will need to get guidance to the Field to put these adjudications on hold. Other than the refugee suspension that appears fully deployed on our end this appears the most urgent clarification we need relative to the EAs.

Thanks,

Andrew Davidson
Acting Deputy Associate Director
Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
111 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20529

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Rigdon, Jerry L
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Moulton, Shayla S
Cc: Deshommes, Samantha L; Tynan, Natalie S; Rather, Michael B; Kvortek, Steven P (Steve); Greeley, Kevin A; Ramsay, John R
Subject: Clarification on Scope of Section 4a

Good Morning, Shayla,

OP&S would like to obtain clarification on the overall scope of section 4a. If we adhere to the specific wording of the EO, the number of forms that might need to be considered will be significantly reduced. (Many thanks to Kevin Greeley for providing the following analysis.)

Section 4(a) starts off focusing specifically on USCIS implementing "a program, as part of the adjudication process for immigration benefits, to identify individuals seeking to enter the United States on a fraudulent basis with the intent to cause harm, or who are at risk of causing harm subsequent to their admission."

Going back to the argument of using the plain language of the EO, to ensure that we don't go outside of the legal scope, the first part of this seems to focus on "individuals seeking to enter the United States." The second part seems to focus on individuals "who are at risk of causing harm subsequent to their admission." (b)(5)

"Admission" is defined in the INA as:

(13)(A) The terms "admission" and "admitted" mean, with respect to an alien, the lawful entry of the alien into the United States after inspection and authorization by an immigration officer.

(B) An alien who is paroled under section 212(d)(5) or permitted to land temporarily as an alien crewman shall not be considered to have been admitted.

(C) An alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States shall not be regarded as seeking an admission into the United States for purposes of the immigration laws unless the alien-

(i) has abandoned or relinquished that status,

(ii) has been absent from the United States for a continuous period in excess of 180 days,

(iii) has engaged in illegal activity after having departed the United States,

(iv) has departed from the United States while under legal process seeking removal of the alien from the United States, including removal proceedings under this Act and extradition proceedings,

(v) has committed an offense identified in section 212(a)(2), unless since such offense the alien has been granted relief under section 212(h) or 240A(a), or

(vi) is attempting to enter at a time or place other than as designated by immigration officers or has not been admitted to the United States after inspection and authorization by an immigration officer.

The same legal question exists for the other forms already identified.

Shayla – Has this previously been discussed amongst the WG leads? If not, should we get a legal interpretation from OCC or even raise the question to Julie Farnam?

Thanks,
Jerry

Jerry Rigdon
Deputy Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
Office of Policy and Strategy
USCIS Headquarters



(b)(6)

Gillispie, Anna E

From: Rigdon, Jerry L
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 9:19 AM
To: Levine, Laurence D; Tynan, Natalie S
Cc: Deshommes, Samantha L
Subject: FW: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

Good Morning,

Kevin Greeley makes a great point about how USCIS should interpret the scope of section 4a of the "Protecting the Nation..." E.O. (See red font portion of email below.) Since clarifying the scope of this section is vital, I propose that we run this question up through the Forms Changes WG lead to Julie Farnam. Please let me know if you agree or if you have other thoughts.

Thanks,
Jerry

Jerry Rigdon
Deputy Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
Office of Policy and Strategy
USCIS Headquarters


(b)(6)

From: Greeley, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 10:08 AM
To: Rigdon, Jerry L; Kvortek, Steven P (Steve); Ramsay, John R
Subject: RE: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

If the OP&S representatives (and potentially OP&S management) concur with my interpretation, then I think we should proactively raise this to the WG leads for consideration. I don't know if FDNS will necessarily agree, since it might significantly change the scope of the forms that FDNS predesignated. However, FDNS and adjudications often have differing opinions on certain matters.

I would defer to the group, and Jerry specifically as a management POC, as to the best course of action.

Thanks!

Kevin Greeley
Adjudications Officer
DHS|USCIS
Office of Policy & Strategy (OP&S)
National Security & Benefits Integrity Division (NSBI)


(b)(6)

From: Rigdon, Jerry L
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 10:04 AM
To: Greeley, Kevin A; Kvortek, Steven P (Steve); Ramsay, John R
Subject: RE: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

Kevin – This is a great catch!

I propose that we send Kevin's write-up to Shayla with a request to get Julie's take on the scope of 4a.

Thoughts?

Jerry Rigdon
Deputy Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division
Office of Policy and Strategy
USCIS Headquarters

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Greeley, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 9:20 AM
To: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve); Rigdon, Jerry L; Ramsay, John R
Subject: RE: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

However, I didn't raise this point in the Forms WG, which is what your notes cover. I only raised it in the Interview WG. So the thoughts expressed below haven't been presented to the Forms WG for consideration.

I wanted to raise it to the OP&S POCs included here for contemplation.

Thanks!

Kevin Greeley
Adjudications Officer
DHS|USCIS
Office of Policy & Strategy (OP&S)
National Security & Benefits Integrity Division (NSBI)

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

From: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve)
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 9:17 AM
To: Greeley, Kevin A; Rigdon, Jerry L; Ramsay, John R
Subject: RE: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

Thank you, Kevin. I tried to capture this in the notes but didn't expound upon the context of your comments at the working group meeting. I'll revise the meeting minutes to include this clarification.

-Steve

From: Greeley, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 9:02 AM

To: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve); Rigdon, Jerry L; Ramsay, John R
Subject: RE: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

Hi, Steve. I don't have any suggested edits or additions. Although, something to consider for the OP&S POCs, is something I didn't raise until the Interview WG.

Section 4(a) starts off focusing specifically on USCIS implementing "a program, as part of the adjudication process for immigration benefits, to identify individuals seeking to enter the United States on a fraudulent basis with the intent to cause harm, or who are at risk of causing harm subsequent to their admission."

Going back to the argument of using the plain language of the EO, to ensure that we don't go outside of the legal scope, the first part of this seems to focus on "individuals seeking to enter the United States." The second part seems to focus on individuals "who are at risk of causing harm subsequent to their admission."

(b)(5)

"Admission" is defined in the INA as:

(13)(A) The terms "admission" and "admitted" mean, with respect to an alien, the lawful entry of the alien into the United States after inspection and authorization by an immigration officer.

(B) An alien who is paroled under section 212(d)(5) or permitted to land temporarily as an alien crewman shall not be considered to have been admitted.

(C) An alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States shall not be regarded as seeking an admission into the United States for purposes of the immigration laws unless the alien-

(i) has abandoned or relinquished that status,

(ii) has been absent from the United States for a continuous period in excess of 180 days,

(iii) has engaged in illegal activity after having departed the United States,

(iv) has departed from the United States while under legal process seeking removal of the alien from the United States, including removal proceedings under this Act and extradition proceedings,

(v) has committed an offense identified in section 212(a)(2), unless since such offense the alien has been granted relief under section 212(h) or 240A(a), or

(vi) is attempting to enter at a time or place other than as designated by immigration officers or has not been admitted to the United States after inspection and authorization by an immigration officer.

The same legal question exists for other forms already identified.

I should have raised this in the first WG, but it didn't strike me until the second WG. Regardless of what the intent might have been with the EO, I think we need to stick with the specific language. This is why it is essential to have knowledgeable immigration experts involved in drafting and reviewing EOs before they are signed. I think if we adhere to the specific wording of the EO, the scope of forms that might need to be considered will be significantly reduced.

I appreciate any thoughts you have on this in advance of the next WG meeting.

Thanks.

Kevin Greeley

Adjudications Officer

DHS|USCIS

Office of Policy & Strategy (OP&S)

National Security & Benefits Integrity Division (NSBI)

(b)(6)

From: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve)

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:41 PM

To: Rigdon, Jerry L; Greeley, Kevin A; Ramsay, John R

Subject: RE: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

Thank you, Jerry. I appreciate the review and input.

From: Rigdon, Jerry L

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:37:07 PM

To: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve); Greeley, Kevin A; Ramsay, John R

Subject: FW: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

Steve,

I added a few edits.

Thanks,

Jerry

Jerry Rigdon

Deputy Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division

Office of Policy and Strategy

USCIS Headquarters

(b)(6)

From: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve)

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 4:34 PM

To: Greeley, Kevin A; Rigdon, Jerry L

Subject: Executive Order: Form Revisions Working Group - Meeting Minutes

Kevin and Jerry,

Please see the attached draft meeting minutes of this morning's EO: *Form Revisions* working group meeting. If there is any additional information or changes that should be included, please advise and I'll update the notes.

Thank you,

Steve

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Gillispie, Anna E

From: Kvortek, Lisette E
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Greeley, Kevin A
Cc: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve)
Subject: RE: EO Interview Working Group

Thanks Kevin. I agree with your observation on whether the WGs have a consistent understanding and interpretation of Sec 4. However, with our particular group Sec 4 is clear that we ought to look at our current interview processes in general. We have governing laws and policies in place which govern who we interview and don't, including interview waived cases. I highly recommend we don't focus on form types for the paper as it can become unwieldy and we will lose focus. How I see it, regardless if we are interpreting this section to mean those that are outside or inside the U.S., our goal is to identify interview process enhancements, which can be within any of the categories listed in the invite. These enhancements will benefit the narrow or broader interpretation of this section. I see this as an excellent opportunity for our agency as a whole to identify those short and long term goals for implementation.

To your bigger concern, perhaps your leadership may want to raise your question to the EO bi-weekly meetings. I think this will be the better audience to provide direction.

Talk soon!

Lisette Kvortek | Senior Advisor
DHS/USCIS Field Operations Directorate

(b)(6)

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From: Greeley, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 1:23 PM
To: Kvortek, Lisette E
Cc: Kvortek, Steven P (Steve)
Subject: RE: EO Interview Working Group

Hi, Lisette. NSBI was wondering if the WG could readdress one of the possible decisions that was made in the last meeting. We think it was decided that, due to the short deadline, we should focus on those form types where we already conduct interviews.

As was noted in the meeting, some of those interviews are based on forms that don't seem to be covered under the plain language of the EO.

The EO is specifically calling for "development of a uniform screening standard and procedure, such as in-person interviews", to "identify individuals seeking to enter the United States on a fraudulent basis with the intent to cause harm, or who are at risk of causing harm subsequent to their admission."

Therefore, after thinking about it some more, we wonder if the first order of business should be to determine if USCIS currently meets the stated suggestion of in-person interviews on all forms where an individual is seeking to "enter" the US or where they might pose a risk after their "admission"? However that is defined.

If seems like the overall intent of the EO is to close gaps and reduce risks. So shouldn't our first priority be to identify if there are any gaps/risks related to forms that do not currently require an interview, rather than first focusing on improving existing interviews? It seems like not conducting interviews, when potentially required or recommended by the EO, is more of a risk than conducting non-uniform or non-standard interviews that could benefit from improvements.

We just wanted to make sure that we had sufficiently examined the top priority in complying with this EO.

Also, OP&S raised to the Forms WG today the issue of whether all the WGs should have a consistent understanding and interpretation of what the beginning language of Section (4)(a) says. If all WGs don't have a consistent understanding, the end results will be an inconsistent analysis that is supposed to result in a uniform standard and procedure.

Thanks for considering this and sorry that this wasn't raised during the first meeting.

Kevin Greeley

Adjudications Officer

DHS|USCIS

Office of Policy & Strategy (OP&S)

National Security & Benefits Integrity Division (NSBI)

(b)(6)

From: Kvortek, Lisette E

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 10:57 AM

To: Thomas, Ronnie D; Padilla, April Y; Cox, Sophia; Slattery, Shannon E; Connor, Alina M; Benavides, Jaime L; Schaffer, Timothy L; Rosenstock, Peter L; Goudge, Laurie A; Akinjola, Folukemi O (Kemi); Turo, Karen M; Wilson, Lynn M; Carter, Pea Meng; Lauver, Tinnina M (Tina); Saucier, Hillary W; Dunn, Maureen A; Kvortek, Steven P (Steve); Greeley, Kevin A; Linnan, Raymond J; Short, Gina L; Hess, Ellen; Ginzburg, Roman; Sohonyay, Simon P; Miller, Richard L; Chiorazzi, Anne; Micker, Jennifer N

Subject: EO Interview Working Group

Greetings:

Attached please find:

1. Updated working group member list
2. PP deck
3. Recommendation template for submission of drafts
4. List of the various working groups

My apologies for the large emails. I hope to have an ECN page set up soon.

Best,

Lisette Kvortek | Senior Advisor
DHS|USCIS| Field Operations Directorate

(b)(6)

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Gillispie, Anna E

From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 7:22 PM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Cc: Levine, Laurence D; Rather, Michael B
Subject: RE: Two Questions (b)(5)

I forgot to note -

N

Natalie S. Tynan
Senior Advisor
USCIS, Office of Policy & Strategy
20 Massachusetts Ave.
Washington, DC

 (b)(6)

From: Tynan, Natalie S
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Anderson, Kathryn E; Beveridge, Jennifer L (Jenna); Cummings, Kevin J; Deshommes, Samantha L; Dunn, Maureen A; Hamilton, Cristina A; Lee, Robert E; Parascandola, Ciro A; Phillips, Mark; Prelogar, Brandon B; Rather, Michael B; Rigdon, Jerry L; Silwany, Oscar Y
Cc: Levine, Laurence (b)(6); Rather, Michael B
Subject: FW: Two Questions

Hi All – attached is the executive order signed early this evening by the President. Please let me, Mike and Larry know if any questions or immediate impacts to policy come to mind. Next week, we may want to consider pulling relevant policy guidance and start thinking about new guidance that will have to be issued. Hopefully we will have more information.

In the meantime, please send any questions!

Thanks,
Natalie

Here is a quick summary (please read the entire document – I tried to hit the “highlights”):

1. Suspension of Issuance of Visas and Other Immigration Benefits to Nationals of Countries of Particular Concern. There are review and reporting requirements that shall be completed within 30 days and additional follow up reporting requirements. While the review is conducted, the immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens from countries referred to in section 217(a)(12) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12), is suspended for 90 days. The Secretary shall provide a list of countries that do not provided necessary information to adjudicate and additional countries may be added. Visas may be issued to nationals of "blocked" countries in the national interest.
2. Implementing Uniform Screening Standards for All Immigration Programs A program, as part of the adjudication process for immigration benefits, to identify individuals seeking to enter the United States on a fraudulent basis with the intent to cause harm, or who are at risk of causing harm subsequent to their admission will be created and will include development of a uniform screening standard and procedure; a database of identity documents proffered by applicants; amended application forms with questions aimed at identifying fraudulent answers and malicious intent; a process to evaluate the applicant's likelihood of becoming a positively contributing member of society and the applicant's ability to make contributions to the national interest; and a mechanism to assess whether or not the applicant has the intent to commit criminal or terrorist acts after entering the United States.
3. Realignment of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program for Fiscal Year 2017. Suspension of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) for 120 days for review of the USRAP application and adjudication process to determine what additional procedures should be taken to ensure that those approved for refugee admission do not pose a threat to the security and welfare of the United States. After 120 days, USRAP admissions resume for nationals of countries for which have been determined that such additional procedures are adequate to ensure the security and welfare of the United States. Refugee claims made by individuals on the basis of religious-based persecution, provided that the religion of the individual is a minority religion in the individual's country of nationality will be prioritized. Admission of refugees from Syria will be suspended. The refugee limit will be 50,000 for fiscal year 2017.
4. Rescission of Exercise of Authority Relating to the Terrorism Grounds of Inadmissibility. The Secretaries of State and Homeland Security shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, consider rescinding the exercises of authority in section 212 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182, relating to the terrorism grounds of inadmissibility, as well as any related implementing memoranda.
5. Expedited Completion of the Biometric Entry-Exit Tracking System.
6. Visa Interview Security. The visa interview waiver program is suspended to ensure compliance with section 222 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1222, which requires that all individuals seeking a nonimmigrant visa undergo an in-person interview, subject to specific statutory exceptions.
7. Visa Validity Reciprocity. The Secretary of State shall review all nonimmigrant visa reciprocity agreements to ensure that they are, with respect to each visa classification, truly reciprocal.

Senior Advisor
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